

### --- “Series of 1883” - Twenty Pounds - Blue - COUPON Stamps ---

Chris Ryan in the “Canadian Revenue Newsletter”, No. 41, of March 2003, reports that the 20 pound denomination was one of the original denominations in the “Series of 1883” introduced on July 1st, and thus *block wmkd* copies occur.

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The catalogue lists the *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

- RM-297c** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an **188**\_ stub
- RM-297** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an **188**\_ stub
- RM-297** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an **188**\_ stub
- RM-298** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*short wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an **189**\_ stub
- RM-299** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - 5 mm. red controls,  
*short wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an **189**\_ stub
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<b>3rd BABN Contract</b> (1878-1886)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 40,400 copies of “20 lb., Blue, Coupon” stamps; printed by hand press.
<b>4th BABN Contract</b> (1886-1892)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 12,100 copies of “20 lb., Blue, Coupon” stamps; printed by hand press.
<b>5th BABN Contract</b> (1892-1897)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 26,490 copies of “20 lb., Blue, Coupon” stamps; printed by hand press.

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### --- The “theoretical” control number range on the 20 pound blue Coupon stamp ---

<b>3rd BABN Contract</b> - (1878-1886)	40,400	- <b>000001</b> to <b>040400</b>
<b>4th BABN Contract</b> - (1886-1892)	12,100	- <b>040401</b> to <b>052500</b>
<b>5th BABN Contract</b> - (1892-1897)	<u>26,490</u>	- <b>052501</b> to <b>078990</b>
	78,990	

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### --- The “actual” control number range on the 20 pound blue Coupon stamp, as recorded to date ---

20 pounds, blue, on <i>block wmkd</i> wove - 4 mm. controls	- <b>000011</b> to <b>000796</b>
20 pounds, blue, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove - 4 mm. controls	- <b>036991</b> to <b>042809</b>
20 pounds, blue, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove - 5 mm. controls	- <b>055695</b> a single copy

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--- RM-297c - Twenty Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Blue - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed in Montreal on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm. red control numbers ---

--- Perforated 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait at 200% scale ---



The catalogue lists this *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

RM-297c - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 20 pound blue Coupon stamp ---

3rd BABN Contract - (1878-1886)

40,400

- 000001 to 040400



★RM-297c - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, with 4 mm. control number 000043, from the 3rd BABN Contract,  
recess printed on *block wmkd* vertical mesh fine crisp wove - with ten 1/2 pound coupons

000011	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove, with the stub dated 188_
000034	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000043 ★	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000060	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000062	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000071	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000074	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000733	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove
000756-60 ★	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove, with the stub dated 188_ - a pane of five stamps
000796 ★	RM-297c	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on block wmkd vertical mesh wove, with the stub dated 188_

--- RM-297 - Twenty Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Blue - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed in Montreal on *unwmkd vertical* mesh wove - with 4 mm. red control numbers ---

--- Perforated 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

The catalogue lists the *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

**RM-297** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd vertical* mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

The collection *does not contain* a control numbered copy of **RM-297**.



★ **RM-297n** - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, without control numbering,  
on *unwmkd vertical* mesh wove - with ten 1/2 pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

All of the stamps bearing 4 mm. Gothic *violet control numbers* seem to come from the “Series of 1883”. In a similar parallel, all of the stamps with 5 mm. Roman light blue controls seem to come from the “Series of 1880-81”. I feel that these were prepared by BABN for Philatelic Exhibitions in 1880-81, and in the mid-1880’s. Some examples can be found on *block wmkd* paper, which indicates that they come from 1883-84.

There are a couple dozen examples in the collection most of which came from the “Ferrari” collection purchased from Erling van Dam. None of the other stamps in the “Ferrari” collection dated from later than 1900. It is possible that they were prepared as “presentation” sets for prominent philatelists.



★ 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, with purple 4 mm. Gothic control **75781**,  
on *unwmkd vertical* mesh wove

The **3rd BABN Contract** began printing using *block wmkd* paper with a vertical mesh and, after a short run, switched to vertical mesh *unwmkd paper*. Many of the initially printed coupon stamps with *violet Gothic controls* were run on *block wmkd vertical* mesh paper, but the twenty pound stamp was a later run on *unwmkd vertical* mesh paper.



--- RM-297 - Twenty Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Blue - 4th BABN Contract - 1886-92 ---

--- Perforated 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- printed in Montreal on *unwmkd horizontal* mesh wove - with 4 mm. red control numbers ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

The catalogue lists the *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

RM-297 - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*long wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 20 pound blue Coupon stamp ---

4th BABN Contract - (1886-1892)

12,100

- 040401 to ??????



★RM-297 - 20 pounds, blue, imperforate? CWCS, with 4 mm. red control number 046445, from the 4th BABN Contract,  
recess printed in Montreal on *unwmkd horizontal mesh* thin crisp wove,  
with ten ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - probably a bottom copy with the upper perforations clipped

046410	RM-297	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on unwmkd horizontal mesh wove
046417	RM-297	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on unwmkd horizontal mesh wove, with ten 1/2 pound coupons and the stub dated 188_
046423	RM-297 CP	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on unwmkd horizontal mesh wove, stub dated 188_ - stamped CANCELLED in 3 mm. Gothic
046424 ★	RM-297	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on unwmkd horizontal mesh wove
046445	RM-297	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on unwmkd horizontal mesh wove, with ten 1/2 pound coupons, stub dated 188_, trimmed imperforate

It is probable that all of the 12,100 twenty pound blue COUPON stamps, listed by John McKay as ‘delivered’ under the 4th BABN Contract, were printed under the 3rd BABN Contract.

At some point between 046445 on the 188\_ stamp RM-297 and 052256 on the 189\_ stamp on RM-298 a new plate has been introduced. This new plate had a *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait, and a stub dated 189\_. The control numbers on both RM-297 and RM-298 use 4 mm. figures - which I attribute to Montreal printing. BABN returned to Ottawa in 1887, but it seems that the initial copies of this 189\_ *short wreath* stamp were printed and control numbered in Montreal.

--- RM-298 - Twenty Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Blue - 4th BABN Contract - 1886-92 ---

--- Perforated 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten ½ pound coupons, and an 189\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- printed in Montreal on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm. red control numbers ---

--- With the *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait - scanned at 200% scale ---



The catalogue lists this *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

RM-298 - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - 4 mm. red controls,  
*short wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an 189\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 20 pound blue Coupon stamp ---

4th BABN Contract - (1886-1892)                      12,100                      - ?????? to 052500



★RM-298 CP - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, 4 mm. control number 052259,  
printed in Montreal, with ten 1/2 pound coupons and an 189\_ stub - stamped CANCELLED in 3 mm. Gothic

052256	RM-298	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWC, on <i>unwmkd</i> vertical mesh wove
052259 ★	RM-298 CP	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, CWCS, on <i>unwmkd</i> vertical mesh wove, with ten ½ pound coupons, dated 189_, CANCELLED in 3 mm. Gothic

It seems to me that after printing the new 189\_ plates and adding the 4 mm control numbers, Montreal shipped the plates to Ottawa.

--- RM-299 - Twenty Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Deep Blue - 5th BABN Contract - 1892-93 ---

--- printed in Ottawa on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. red control numbers ---

--- Perforated 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus ten ½ pound coupons, and an 189\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

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The catalogue lists this *recess printed* twenty pound blue “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

RM-299 - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - 5 mm. red controls,  
*short wreath*, with ten ½ pound coupons and an 189\_ stub

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--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 20 pound blue Coupon stamp ---

5th BABN Contract - (1892-1897)	26,490	- 052259 to 078990
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★ RM-299 - 20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, 5 mm. control number 055695,  
rollered TOBACCO / CUSTOMS / KASLO, B.C.

055695 ★	RM-299	20 pounds, blue, perf 12, on <i>unwmkd</i> horizontal mesh wove, roller cancelled TOBACCO / CUSTOMS / KASLO, B.C.
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